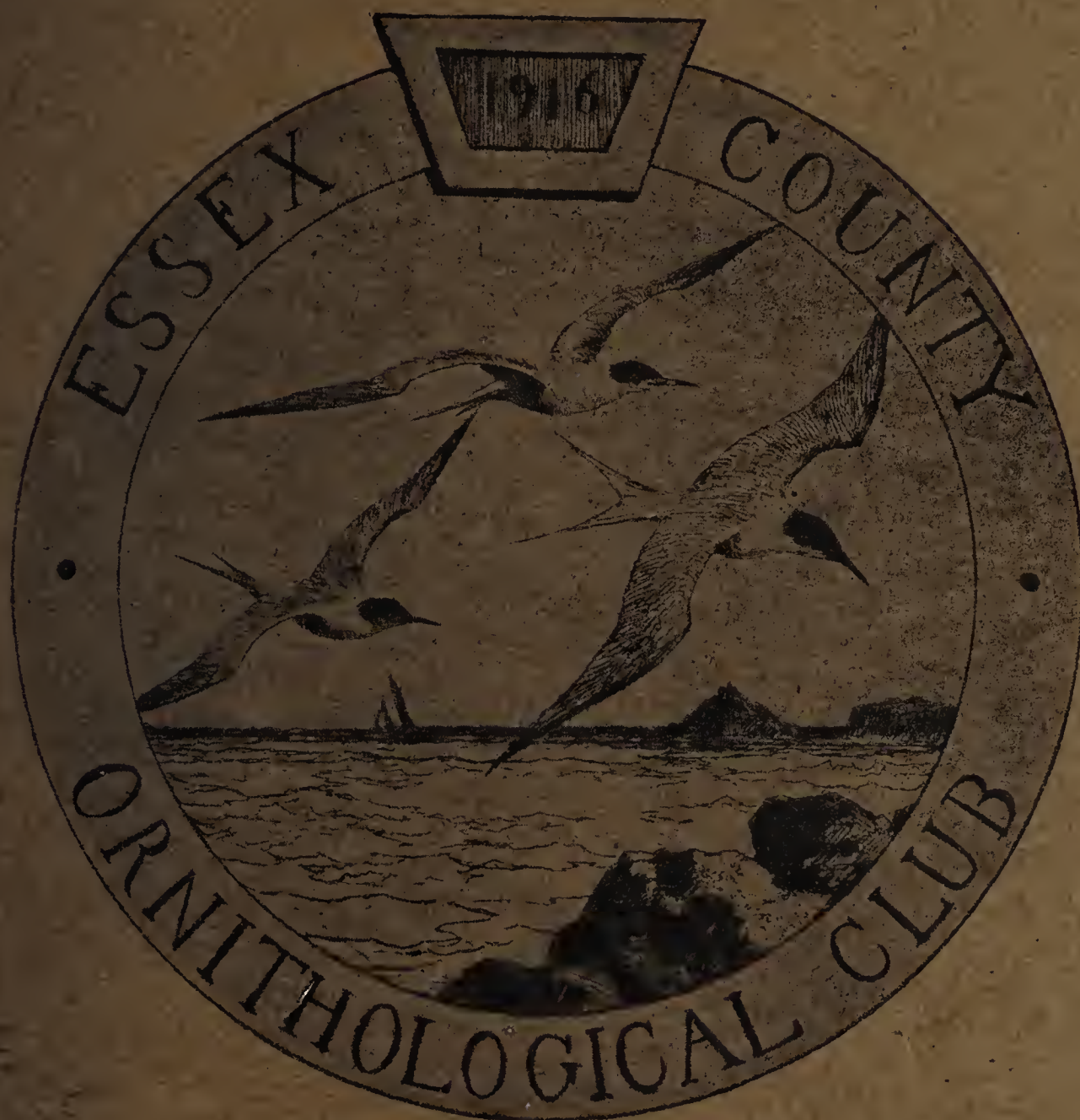


BULLETIN

OF THE



1923

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BULLETIN

OF THE

Essex County Ornithological Club

OF

Massachusetts



1923

FIFTY CENTS

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ESSEX COUNTY ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB
OF MASSACHUSETTS

Salem, Massachusetts

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BULLETIN
OF THE
THE ESSEX COUNTY ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB
OF MASSACHUSETTS
SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS

ISSUED ANNUALLY.

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DECEMBER, 1923

SALEM, MASS.

VOLUME V, No. 1

FOREWORD

Conditions affecting bird life were about average during the year 1923. Cold weather and deep snows prevailed into the middle of March, but winter breaking at that time gave promise of an early spring. The following months of April and May were so variable in weather, however, that only an average spring was the result. The northern migration was not far from normal and the list of birds made on the Annual Ipswich River Bird Trip was of usual length, with but few species missing.

Local breeding birds seemed to have had a good year, fine weather prevailing throughout the nesting season. A dry, warm fall followed and good southward migration lists were made by those who were afield.

A somewhat early flight of sub-arctic birds encouraged hopes of a winter with many common and possibly some rare species, but this flight passed on leaving few stragglers. In spite of a warm and open December, few land birds were to be seen, but water birds, with the exception of the divers, came in large numbers.

THE VOICE AND COURTSHIP OF THE CROW

CHARLES W. TOWNSEND

In proportion to his bulk, the Crow is said to have the largest brain of any bird. He is not famed for his beauty, although the purple iridescence of his sable plumage is not lacking in charm, nor is his voice praised, but all will allow that for intellectual attainments, as shown by his skill in continuing to thrive in numbers although beset by human enemies, he deserves front rank. His sole vocal accomplishment, according to the unobserving, is expressed by a monotonous and somewhat notorious *caw*. Those, on the other hand, who have given attention to the voice of the Crow, marvel at the great variety of his notes, and are even led to infer that he may possess the rudiments of a language which a little clever study on their part might enable them to interpret. In addition, the Crow has a set song in which he indulges for the purpose of courtship. The intellectual character of the Crow is, indeed, well shown in his voice, and this voice is worth studying.

It is always difficult to set down on paper a description of the varied vocal utterances of birds, but, in the case of the Crow the task is somewhat simpler, for many of the expressions used by this bird easily fall into human syllabication. The word *caw* expresses very well his ordinary cry, and, as in human speech, the same word may be expressed in a great variety of tones and with different intensities of feeling. One has but to compare the lazy, absent-minded cawing of a Crow perched on a lookout tree with the same *cawing* when a hawk or a man obtrudes on the scene. If the observer climbs to the nest to inspect the young, the anger that is expressed in the *caw's* is very evident.

One October night at Ipswich, long before daylight, I was awakened by a clamor of great volume that broke out from a crow-roost on a wooded island in the marsh.

Whether the disturbance was due to an owl, to a fox snatching a weakling that had been crowded off the trees, to the breaking of a branch overloaded with Crows, or merely to a nightmare of one of its members that had aroused the roost, I do not know, but the sounds were those of mob terror and anger.

I have noticed a marked difference in the *caws* of a pair. In one the expression was much harsher and deeper than in the other, but whether this bird was the male or the female I could not be sure, nor can I say whether this difference is or is not the rule.

There are many other words in the Crow vocabulary than the simple *caw*, and I find a number of them recorded in my notes. Many are common and familiar sounds of the countryside, and their recognition is always a pleasure. First, one may consider the modifications of the *caw*. Of these, *orr, orr*, are common, as well as *ah, ah*, the latter delivered at times as with a great feeling of relief. Again, the note may sound like *gnaw, gnaw*, delivered with a nasal inflection and in a taunting manner.

On the other hand the notes may lose all semblance of the typical *caws*, and rapidly repeated and wailing *kaa, wha, wha, wha, kaa, wha, wha, wha*, may be heard, or, as I have written at other times, *ou, ahh, ahh, ahh*. Again, a loud and cheerful *ha, ha, ha*, may be heard, suggestive of one of the calls of the Herring Gull. A despairing *nevah, nevah*, is not uncommon. Occasionally one may hear a loud *cluck*. One of the most extraordinary combinations of Crow notes that I have ever heard was emitted near my house at Ipswich early one April morning. The bird called *chuck-chuck, whoo-oo*, and then *cawed* in the ordinary manner, repeating the formula in this order several times. Its significance was hidden.

The conversational notes of a small group or family of Crows are always entertaining, and the observer is impressed with the extensiveness of their vocabulary and with the variations in their feelings. At times the notes are low and confidential, pleasant and almost melodious, if I may use that word here; again they are raucous and scolding,

bursting at times into a veritable torrent of abuse. In the same way, in human conversations, one may, even without understanding the words, be able to interpret the meanings and motives involved. If one approaches a Crow-roost at night, one is greeted by a babble of sounds which suggest surprisingly the notes of a Night Heronry, and include many notes and phrases that have not been set down here.

Mr. Francis H. Allen* has called attention to an interesting fact as regards the voice of the Crow, namely, that this bird sometimes *caws* rhythmically. For example, a Crow emits four short *caws* in groups of two. This Mr. Allen records as the "22 call." A "3 call" is common, and he also records a "21 call" and a "211 call." He believes that this shows a well-developed aesthetic sense in the crow. "How can we escape the belief," he says, "that the bird takes a delight, not only in the exercise of his vocal organs, but also in the rhythm and the variety of his utterances.

The young Crow, instead of calling *caw, caw*, calls *car, car*, for this is his hunger call or begging cry, and he appears to be always hungry. When his parent arrives with food, the repetition of the note becomes very rapid and soon changes into a choking, gurgling sound, as the young, with wings flapping, receives nourishment from his parent's crop. I have recorded these sounds as follows: *Car, car, car, cowkle, cowkle, cowkle*. A young Crow, if taken from the nest early enough, never acquires a fear of man and becomes an interesting pet, especially so on account of the variety and expressiveness of his conversational notes. When his head is scratched, he utters low grunts of satisfaction, and his side remarks while he watches his chance to snatch a bright screw from the carpenter, or when he is hiding tid-bits from the table, are decidedly human.

Courtship in birds is expressed in three ways, namely in display, dance and song. Display and dance are often difficult to separate one from the other, for the dance is so arranged as to display to best advantage the beauty of the plumage. Black plumes with purple iridescence may be well worthy of display, and the rhythmic motion even of sable-

*Auk, XXXVI, 1919, p. 112.

clad forms is often full of charm. Avian courtship songs of Passerine birds vary from the serene and inspiring hymn of the Hermit Thrush to the discordant shriek of the Kingbird. After all, it is merely a matter of taste. The courtship song of the Crow consists of a rattle, a quick succession of sharp notes which have been likened to the gritting of teeth. That this is a courtship song and not merely one of the bizarre expressions of this versatile bird, is shown conclusively by its association with courtship display and dance. Like all bird songs it is commonest in the spring, but may occasionally, as is the case with many bird songs, be heard at other times, especially in the fall of the year, when it is explained by the "autumnal recrudescence of the amatory instinct." Although the song is generally given from a perch, it may also be given on the wing, constituting a flight song, although there is no other difference in the character of the two songs.

The whole courtship of the Crow varies somewhat, but the following description of this act, seen under favorable circumstances, is fairly typical. A Crow, presumably the male, perched on the limb of an oak tree, walked towards another and smaller Crow, presumably the female, that seemed to regard him with indifference. Facing the smaller one, the male bowed low, slightly spreading his wings and tail and puffing out his body feathers. After two bows, he sang his rattling song, beginning with his head up and finishing it with his head lower than his feet. The whole performance was repeated several times. The song, such as it was, issued forth during the lowering of the head. Early one June morning, at Ipswich, I heard a Crow sing his song seven times in quick succession. After that he sang at intervals for a couple of hours.

During the love season, fights by rival Crows are common. Each bird tries to rise above the other in the air, and, with noisy outcry, each attacks the rival. Sometimes their struggles are so violent that the birds come to the ground, where they continue their fight and sometimes roll over together in their efforts, all the time voicing their wrath.

On the other hand, one may sometimes chance upon the

loving actions of affianced couples. More than once I have seen one of a pair that were sitting close together in a tree, caress the other with its beak and pick gently at its head. The mate would put up her head to be caressed, and I have been reminded of billing doves.

These observations of the Crow have been made under difficulties at Ipswich, where, as in most country places, every man's hand is against him. Here he is suspicious if one even points a stick at him, and he is very sensitive to observation through binoculars, but in areas where all shooting is forbidden, as in parks of a city, he pays little attention to these things. His intelligence tells him that here he is safe from all molestation. On this account I would suggest the park for the study of the Crow.

HARLEQUIN DUCK IN ESSEX COUNTY

CHARLES B. FLOYD

On February 22nd, 1923, in company with several members of the Brookline Bird Club, I was fortunate in observing an immature male Harlequin Duck off Eastern Point, Gloucester.

When first discovered, the bird was near the shore, close by two grebes that were feeding. The duck permitted several of the party to stalk it, and they studied it at close range. Two of the party, Professor Saunders and Mr. C. E. Clark, are familiar with this species and agreed with the diagnosis at once. When the bird flew at our closer approach, it was unafraid, and alighted in the water not far up the beach. Again it was examined under splendid conditions, and upon being alarmed took wing and flew back to the place from which it was originally flushed.

Records of this bird in Massachusetts are rare. Doctor Townsend notes but few for the county and it thus seems worth recording the appearance of this individual.

IPSWICH RIVER BIRD TRIP

RALPH LAWSON

The Seventeenth Annual Ipswich River Bird Trip was held on May 19 and 20, 1923, under very favorable conditions of weather, and although the spring had been almost as backward as the year before, a total of ninety-seven species were observed during the two days. It seemed to be the general opinion that birds were scarce, although a few species, notably Maryland Yellow-throats, were abundant. Two new species were added to the sixteen-year total, namely the Lesser Yellow-legs and the American Coot. The former was observed near Plover Hill with two of the Greater species. The territory covered was practically the same as usual, except that no one visited Ipswich Beach proper, where it is almost certain that Piping Plover would have been found. The absence of many shore birds may have been partially due to a very high tide, which had driven them off the flats.

The morning party, consisting of nine men in three canoes, started from Middleton Paper Mills at 9:30 o'clock, and fifty-seven species were recorded before the party arrived at Howe Station shortly after noon.

The main party began leaving Howe Station shortly before two o'clock, and the last canoe got away about quarter before three. A short stop was made at the Club Camp on the Otterbank, but by 6:30 most of the canoes had reached Pine Island, and supper was eaten. After supper three parties in canoes explored the marshes and returned soon after dark; the day's totals were then checked up around the camp-fire, and it was found that eighty-five species had been observed. Thirty-nine men tented out on Pine Island Saturday night. The day had been partially cloudy, with a cool, light wind from the east, and Saturday night was really cold with a temperature approaching the frost point. The sky, however, cleared at sunset.

Sunday morning the camp was astir early and breakfast was eaten about sunrise. The early hours were chilly, but

a warm sun soon made itself felt, and Pine Island was searched for Warblers, but no unusual species were found. The character of this island is now changing very rapidly, as the young white pines which were planted some ten years ago are now of considerable size; nevertheless, the fringe of hardwoods around the outer edges will no doubt continue to attract Warblers. Canoes began leaving the island shortly after breakfast and the last got away at nine o'clock. From this point to the lunching spot at Hemlock Bend the route was covered by the party in a leisurely manner, and although the river valley was thoroughly searched by numerous landing parties, nothing of particular note was seen. Several species, however, were observed under particularly favorable conditions, particularly Long-billed Marsh Wrens, which were very tame and apparently anxious to display themselves.

Goodhue's Landing at Ipswich was reached about two o'clock and the motor-boat for Little Neck boarded a half-hour later. After walking along the beach and the edge of Clark's Pond, the party returned to Ipswich Station via Plover Hill, arriving at six o'clock. Incidentally, a careful search was made for the famous Warbling Vireo, a bird which has so often been found in a certain group of trees in Ipswich, but it could not be located this year.

It was generally remarked that never had the river been so beautiful as this year. The water was moderately high, the maples red with fruit, the other hardwoods just coming into leaf, and the many contrasting pines, therefore, showed to good advantage.

The list is as follows:

Herring Gull	Woodcock
Common Tern	Coot
Black Duck	Least Sandpiper
Wood Duck	Semipalmated Sandpiper
Bittern	Greater Yellow-legs
Great Blue Heron	Yellow-legs
Green Heron	Solitary Sandpiper
Black-crowned Night Heron	Spotted Sandpiper
Virginia Rail	Semipalmated Plover
Sora	Ruffed Grouse

Ring-necked Pheasant	Towhee
Mourning Dove	Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Marsh Hawk	Scarlet Tanager
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Cliff Swallow
Red-shouldered Hawk	Barn Swallow
Sparrow Hawk	Tree Swallow
Osprey	Bank Swallow
Black-billed Cuckoo	Red-eyed Vireo
Belted Kingfisher	Yellow-throated Vireo
Hairy Woodpecker	Blue-headed Vireo
Downy Woodpecker	Black and White Warbler
Northern Flicker	Golden-winged Warbler
Whip-poor-will	Nashville Warbler
Chimney Swift	Tennessee Warbler
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Northern Parula Warbler
Kingbird	Yellow Warbler
Crested Flycatcher	Myrtle Warbler
Phoebe	Magnolia Warbler
Least Flycatcher	Chestnut-sided Warbler
Blue Jay	Black-poll Warbler
Crow	Blackburnian Warbler
Starling	Black-throated Green Warbler
Bobolink	Pine Warbler
Cowbird	Prairie Warbler
Red-winged Blackbird	Oven-bird
Meadowlark	Water Thrush
Baltimore Oriole	Maryland Yellow-throat
Bronzed Grackle	Wilson's Warbler
Purple Finch	Canada Warbler
"English" or House Sparrow	Redstart
Goldfinch	Catbird
Vesper Sparrow	Brown Thrasher
Savannah Sparrow	Long-billed Marsh Wren
White-crowned Sparrow	Chickadee
White-throated Sparrow	Veery or Wilson's Thrush
Chipping Sparrow	Hermit Thrush
Field Sparrow	Robin
Song Sparrow	Bluebird
Swamp Sparrow	

DISTANCES TRAVELLED DAILY BY SOME BIRDS

ARTHUR H. NORTON

When settled in their summer or winter quarters, birds have a restricted range within which they nest, or have resting places, and where they search for food and such other things as are needful for their existence or comfort. In the case of land birds feeding singly, in pairs or small groups, over regions of irregular topography, interspersed with thickets of woods, where their paths intersect or cross the paths of others of the same species, it is difficult or impossible to determine the extent of the daily travels of many species.

We realize that there are exceptions and that some careful work has been done in the determination of these daily wanderings, but the subject is far from exhausted, and we feel that the field is sufficiently new to render the following casual observations of some interest.

Among the water birds, the case is often quite the contrary from that with land birds, and one who has occasion to be at sea frequently has opportunity to observe with some degree of certainty, instances throwing light on the distances covered daily by these hardy fowl.

The observations recorded here have been made in Maine, chiefly on the coast. The geographical nomenclature is according to the U. S. Coast Survey charts, and the distances are given in nautical miles in accordance with the recent editions of these charts.

The shore and sea birds of this region, so far as their feeding habits are concerned, fall into one or two of the four following groups:

Shore Feeders—Gulls, *River or "Tip Ducks" (—— Anatinae), *Geese, *Hérons, and the *Limicolae excepting the Phalaropes.

Surface or Plankton Feeders—Some *Petrels, Gulls, *Terns, †River Ducks, †Geese, and *Phalaropes.

* Principally or entirely to this group.

† To this group in a limited degree.

Nekton Feeders (Those feeding at depths between the surface and the bottom)—†Grebes, †Loons, *Puffins, *Razor-billed Auks, *Murre, *Dovekies, †Kittiwake Gulls, some †Petrels, *Gannets, †Cormorants and †Mergansers.

Bottom or Benthos Feeders—*Grebes, *Loons, *Sea Pigeons, *Cormorants, †Mergansers and the *Diving Ducks (—— Fuliginæ).

With these facts in mind, we may be sure that Sea Pigeons, Cormorants and Eider Ducks, flying out over a wide expanse of deep water, are bound to some breeding place, some shoal or some roosting place; and Herons are bound to some breeding or roosting place, or to some bay with ample mud flats where they feed.

Hence it is not necessary to follow the flocks of Eiders every foot of the way from the open sea to the known shoal or ledge where they are accustomed to congregate to feed to be sure of their destination; or to follow the Herons every mile of the way from their known breeding places to the estuary or shallow cove where we find them congregated any day at low water, to be sure that they compass the space between these points.

Toward nightfall one day in July, 1902, from the deck of the steamer "Frank Jones," plying between Portland and Machiasport, the writer saw some Sea Pigeons (*Cepphus grylle*, feeding off the outer point of Schoodic Island. The boat was bound east and on her approach the birds were on the port side; they flew east to cross her bow, then swung away, heading to the southwestward, disappearing in the distance far out over deep water. That they were homeward bound was indicated by the lateness of the hour and the directness of their flight out over the open sea, toward Little Duck Island, nineteen miles distant, where the nearest breeding place was located.

Herring Gulls place their nests on the shore, from just above high-water mark, on sea cliffs, all over the uplands, and in trees, building bulky nests, chiefly of grass and weeds. Those individuals nesting in trees or on turf-denuded outer

* Principally or entirely to this group.

† To this group in a limited degree.

points or cliffs use as much vegetation in their nests as do their neighbors nesting on the green uplands. On examining nests of these Gulls some thirty in number, on the Black and the White Horse Ledges, the first half a mile, the second a little less, from Little Spoon Island, it was found that the nests were as bulky and composed entirely of the same grass and weeds as were those of the Spoon Island. Both of these Ledges are entirely bare of turf or vascular plants of any description, hence the materials must have been brought from the Spoon Island, if not from a more distant point.

Through its striking coloration and peculiar vociferations the Laughing Gull is one of the most noticeable birds found on our coast, and through its confinement to a single colony, its wanderings are easily traced. This species has bred on one of the Egg Rocks in Muscongus Bay, for so long a space of time that it is said to have "always bred there."

During the late eighties, when the birds were sorely persecuted and the colony much reduced in numbers, they bred now on the Shark Rock, now on one of the other of the Egg Rocks, or some seasons on two of the three rocks mentioned, but the Western Egg Rock seemed to have been the most favored. During the nineties the colony was reduced to less than a dozen pairs, which clung with desperate persistence to their old haunts. In 1896 a few moved away to Metinic Green Island, twelve and one-half miles to the eastward, striving to gain a foothold here until 1904, when they disappeared from the place. Since 1904 they have been found breeding only at the Egg Rocks, finally settling on the Western Rock, where they have increased to several hundred.

On August 14, 1918, the writer saw three adults of this species feeding on the flats of the Sheepscot River, above Wiscasset, eleven and one-half miles, in an air line, from the breeding place. On the 4th of the same month, Capt. Herbert L. Spinney noted for the first time one of the birds feeding along the Kennebec River at Bath. Since that date it has been found that the birds come during the breeding

season, regularly, and in considerable numbers to Bath to feed. Bath is eighteen miles west of the Egg Rock, their breeding place.

To state the case comprehensively, these birds, which breed only at the Western Egg Rock, go regularly and in considerable numbers to Sheepscoot Bay, 12 miles, and even up the Sheepscoot to Wiscasset, and up the Sassanau River to the Kennebec at Bath, eighteen miles, to feed in the shallow waters with large areas of mud flats, during the breeding season. In 1922, Laughing Gulls were seen "commonly" flying in over a narrow neck of land in St. George, eleven miles to the northeastward of the Egg Rock; they were probably bound to the Harrington cove, a muddy, shallow estuary.

Thus we find these birds radiating over an area of twenty-nine miles for their food.

During the period between 1902 and 1911, terns on the coast of Maine were confined quite strictly to a few colonies, some of which were very populous. In West Penobscot Bay, Arctic Terns were confined to a large colony on Metinic Green Island. (We are well aware that another large colony was located on Matinicus Rock, 13 miles southeast of Metinic Green Island, and beyond the confines of the Bay.) During this time we saw large flocks of Arctic Terns feeding in the eddy of Monument Ledge at the lower part of Mussle Ridge Channel, seven and one-quarter miles from Metinic Green Island. From the course they took with their prey there is no doubt that they were bound to that place.

Common Terns from the large colony at Stratton and Bluff Islands in Saco Bay, do much of their feeding at Pine Point, two miles along Scarborough Beach, three and four miles, and Richmond's Island, four miles from home.

Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax carbo* and *auritus*), the first in winter and the second in summer, are common on our coast, assembling at regular roosts, where they pass the time not otherwise taken up. From these centers the birds set forth to fish, many in the early morning, others when

prompted by hunger or the turn of the tide, flying in pairs or small flocks to their feeding grounds at various points.

During the eighties there was a large winter roost somewhere in the southeastern part of the Mussle Ridge, very likely at Two Bush Reef. Had the observer been stationed at that roost in the morning, as the birds went far and wide to their feeding places, he would have been reminded of the crude old picture of that day used on cases of Rising Sun Stove Polish, in which the red orb of day peered smilingly above the horizon, darting his illuminating rays into every section of space. As it was, the point of observation (at White Head) covered but a single ray, which resulted in the appearance of a flight of Shag coming from the roost to the eastward and proceeding to the westward to Wheelers Bay and as far as Tenants Harbor against the mainland. Later in the day there was a regular return flight to the eastward, back to the roost.

Accepting Two Bush Reef as the roosting place (and it was certainly no nearer), the birds reaching the mainland were flying fully five miles, or ten miles for the round trip each day.

For many years there has been a summer roost on Marblehead Rock (Maine) lying to the northward of the Mussle Ridge. In June, 1921, late in the afternoon, Double-crested Cormorants were seen in some numbers flying past the northern end of White Head on their passage from Wheelers Bay to their roost on the rock mentioned, five miles from their feeding grounds. In May, 1923, flocks of these birds were seen flying from the rock to the mouth of the Weskeag River, over three miles away.

Of the Ducks wintering on the coast of Maine, in point of abundance, the Black Duck probably stands first. During September the species is represented entirely by *Anas rubripes tristis*, with the appearance and gradual increase of *A. rubripes rubripes* through October, and a corresponding decrease of *A. r. tristis*, and its almost entire disappearance in November. The going of one and coming of the other is so gradual that no hiatus is noticeable in the abundance of the species, nor is there any radical change in

the feeding places frequented or the resting places resorted to for refuge, and none in the travels of the species between these resorts.

The large salt marshes at Scarborough have been noted shooting grounds from the earliest times to the present day, and many Black Ducks throughout the season come to these marshes to feed. It has long been the habit of these birds to come to the marshes only during the night or in very heavy weather, and to fly out in the early morning to pass the day on the outlying islands, or in calm weather on the open sea. The flight from these marshes to the islands is about three or four miles.

Another noted resort of these birds is Merrymeeting Bay. After the opening of the season for the shooting of wild fowl, the Black Ducks which have lived in the Bay in peace and security through the summer and early fall, suddenly change their habits, and with morning light leave the Bay to resort to the open sea between Damascove and Sequin Islands, about fourteen miles away; some go as far as the Kettle Bottom, ten miles southeast of Sequin, where they have been seen resting in large flocks; this is fully twenty-six miles from Merrymeeting Bay.

Granting the Black Duck first place in abundance, as a winter duck, the Oldsquaw probably takes second, with the American Eider a worthy third. The great body of Eiders, numbering many thousands, is centered between Petit Manan Point on the east and Pemaquid Point on the west, with respectable numbers both east and west of these points. These hardy birds spend all of the winter afloat well "outside," though it is not unusual to see a few landed on the rocks preening, and this tendency seems to become more frequent by March.

In times prior to 1860, these birds were to be found in the outer confines of our harbors, but with the settlement of the inner shores, the improvement of firearms, and the development of the winter lobster fishery, these shy birds have retreated to the outer islands and ledges, with a present tendency to betake themselves still further to the outermost shoals. Feeding entirely by day at these distant places,

at night they drift or fly still farther outside, where they may have ample sea room to ride out the wildest gales that ravage our coast during winter storms.

The morning flight of Eiders from the open sea to their feeding places is one of the most orderly and majestic scenes of our winter shores; these large birds usually fly in files or columns, the white-backed drakes alternating conspicuously with the brown ducks, making a striking contrast, regardless of the character of the sea or the quality of the light.

One clear, calm morning in November, 1887, from the deck of a small schooner, a little west of north from Monhegan, we witnessed the flight of immense flocks of Eiders coming in from the sea to their feeding places near the Egg Rocks, about six miles away, and they had no doubt flown not less than three miles when seen, or about nine miles to reach their feeding grounds.

In February, 1894, while camping on Metinic, we observed a flight under entirely different conditions. A raft of Eiders had been bedded at the Gunning Head of Metinic Green Island, and the day before our observation had been broken up by a morning's shooting. The day had been moderately calm and so closed, though the sun settled into a grizzling bank of haze at evening. The Eiders had assembled as usual for the night at some point at sea to the southeast of Metinic Green Island. The following morning dawned with a gale blowing from the southwest and a thunderous sea running before it. At dawn the birds came in quartering the wind, on a leeward tack, up to the Gunning Head, holding this course to cross Metinic Reef, then taking a windward tack about west by north, quartered the wind going to the Georges Islands, six miles away. In coming up to the Gunning Head, they had no doubt flown three miles, and in making the Reef one more, or about ten miles to find a feeding place.

Another morning during this sojourn in camp, dawned glassy calm, with a heavily curtained and dull gray sky. With this threatening weather the flocks were completely demoralized, the birds seeming ill at ease, restless and de-

void of definite purpose. They came in from the sea to the southeast, where as usual they had assembled the night before, but came in scattered flocks, with no decision as to destination, now flying to some submerged ledge or shoal, to rise and move further to the westward after a short pause or a few dives. They gave no heed whatever to decoys. Many proceeded as far as the Georges Islands. During the forenoon the calm was broken by a heavy swell, soon followed by a light breeze from the northeast with fine snow, the wind rapidly increasing to a gale from that quarter. With the rising gale the birds which so lately had been without purpose were now inspired with a single impulse, that of getting to windward and making a lee where they could feed and drift away from the breakers.

Though well to leeward, when the storm broke, in an open dory, spanking into the fretted sea, and tugging steadily at the creaking oars, it was well worth the labor and trouble to witness the thrilling sight of these pied flocks, one following another in quick succession, shooting rapidly across the wind, holding their course for a safe berth outside of Metinic Reef, now rounding it and bearing up into the very teeth of the gale to make a lee of the Northeast Point in the Southern Cove. In a short space of time several thousands had assembled here, to feed the rest of the day, and at nightfall drive away quartering in the wind to their accustomed rendezvous to the southeast, for security on the foaming main.

Granting that these Eiders had passed the night only three miles southeast of Metinic (which is conservative), in flying up to that place, then to the Georges Islands and back, and again to the off-shore bedding place, their travels for a day had compassed upwards of twenty-two miles.

During the eighties, a rather large colony of Black-crowned Night Herons was located on the southern end of Metinic. Since the shores of the island are bold and rocky, they afford little feeding ground for this species; hence the birds did their feeding inshore.

A large proportion of this colony was accustomed to get its food about Wheeler's Bay, seven and a half miles away

to the northwest. It is probable that their feeding ground had been established long before the colony was located on the island.

The birds were by no means strictly nocturnal in their feeding, but gave attention to the tides, going in pairs, fives and sevens, day or night, going ashore on the ebb and returning to the island with the flood tide. At least four miles of this space is over the unbroken sea, frequently in summer enveloped in dense fog, sometimes for a week at a stretch.

A small but growing colony of these Herons was located on No Mans Land, one of the Matinicus Islands, during the early nineties, and the birds had to go considerably farther for their food, but their feeding place was not located. Yet this colony was increasing when it was expelled through the death of the trees.

A pair of Ospreys which for many years nested on the eastern side of Grafton Island, in the Mussle Ridge, was accustomed to fish to the westward of White Head, upwards of two miles from home.

Most ornithologists are probably familiar with the fact, or at least fancy, that the Raven was especially dear to Odin, so much so that the bird was frequently referred to as Odin's Bird, and that wise Asa was known as "the Raven God." So important were Ravens in the economy of Asgard, that Odin kept two of the splendid birds, "Thunin" and "Munin," ("Thought" and "Memory"), as his constant attendants and messengers. Each morning they flew forth around the world, returning to perch on his shoulders or throne and whisper in his ears information concerning their daily observations. During their absence, oppressed with anxiety for their safe return, the benevolent Asa was accustomed to muse in the following sense:

Munin and Thunin, my delight,
Speed round the world their daily flight;
From their fond lord they both are flown,
Perhaps eternally are gone;
Though Munin's loss I should deplore,
Yet Thunin's would afflict me more.

Leaving the theogony of the matter in the limbo where it now reposes, here is a very choice bit of ancient natural history, showing that the Norsemen were well acquainted with these sagacious patrolers of the strand at a period so remote that their observations had become a part of their religious lore.

Whether Odin still waits for their daily messages or not, the Ravens on our coast are to be depended upon to leave their roosts in some dense spruce wood, some mountain side or sea cliff, at break of day, and systematically survey long stretches of shore and upland for their daily meals, returning at night to their safe retreat.

In February, 1894, while at the Big Green Island. West Penobscot Bay, a pair of Ravens was accustomed to come to the Island every morning, scan the western shore, cut across the Island and put out to sea again to the southeastward, going in the direction of Matinicus. Late in the afternoon they returned, following the same path backward over the Green Island, going to sea again, flying toward the Mussle Ridge, the nearest point of land approaching the Green Islands. The nearest place where they could have found a suitable roost was Crow Island, four and three-quarters miles away. In their flight out toward Matinicus so early in the morning, the nearest land was four miles away, the Island itself; here a chain of islands trails away to the eastward for upwards of six miles more. It seems incredible that these strong, restless birds could have been content to have passed much time so early in the day on the well-settled Island of Matinicus, their first landfall, notwithstanding that it affords about three miles of shore line. We may feel assured that the birds had covered four and three-quarters miles in their flight to the Green Island, and at least four more to Matinicus, with a possible, or even probable, six additional to the Seal Island. In any event, we have a flight of eight and three-quarters miles before noon, and a like distance in their return late in the afternoon.

Again, in November, 1910, while camping at Corea, in Gouldsboro, Ravens were seen every morning—on one occa-

sion seven—to come from Schoodic Point, at least three and one-quarter miles to the westward, to Cranberry Point, scan a mile of shore line, then put out along the range of Sally's Islands to the eastward for one and three-quarters miles to the Eastern Island, from whence they disappeared until their return journey late in the afternoon. In this flight they had covered about six miles by the middle of the forenoon, and in leaving the Eastern Island had to cross nearly half a mile more of water to the very nearest land, at Dyer's Point, lying at a right angle to the course they had been following.

In closing, we shall deal briefly with some much less extensive wanderings.

On one occasion, when passing through the Narrows between Ram Island, one of the Damascove Islands, and Ocean Point, the outer end of Linnekin's Neck, a Robin was seen carrying nesting material across the passage toward Ocean Point. The shortest distance between shores is half a mile. If this bird may occasionally travel half a mile for the things useful to its life, we have on another occasion found it to be well satisfied with a far less ample range.

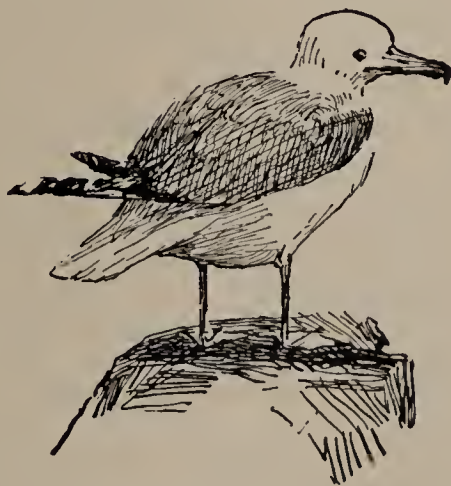
On the eighth of September, 1903, we had a Robin under observation for nine hours and fifteen minutes, and again on the tenth, nine hours and twenty-six minutes. It was a bird of full growth, longtail and strong of flight, in juvenal plumage and moulting into the first winter plumage. Much of the time was spent in preening and taking sun baths. The bird had chosen a secluded section of a narrow yard, containing a grass plot; it was bounded on the north by a wire fence of large mesh (4-inch?), and beyond the open fence was a driveway bordering a pond; on the east was a long brick building from which the observations were made; on the south a continuation of the yard, busy with teams and persons moving about at frequent intervals; on the west was a dead-water from the river. The section of the yard occupied by the bird could not have exceeded fifty by one hundred feet.

The margin of the river was lined with a thicket of alders

and willows, with a dense undergrowth of herbaceous plants; on the yard side of the alder thicket was an ample clump of common elder, well filled with ripe berries. Close by was a heap of ashes three feet high, and several large pieces of timber, all affording convenient and much frequented perches for preening and sun baths, while the close proximity of the thicket afforded a snug refuge when danger was supposed to be near. The river supplied water, and the elder-berries, the foliage insects of the thicket, together with those to be found in the grass plot, yielded food in abundance and variety.

During the eighteen hours and more that we had it under observation, recording its movements at least every ten minutes and usually very much oftener, it was not out of sight for more than two minutes at a time, hence it was not outside of these narrow bounds for a greater length of time, during the time of observation on two different days.

Though it was content with this very narrow compass of space, it was not inactive; it appeared perfectly healthy, and was very seldom quiet for ten minutes at a time.



AN ARCTIC THREE-TOED WOODPECKER AT SUNTAUG LAKE

ARTHUR P. STUBBS

As it was my good fortune to witness a part of the invasion of New England by the Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker during the Fall of 1923, the following transcript from my notes may be of interest.

On the afternoon of October 22, accompanied by Mrs. Stubbs, I visited Suntaug Lake, which is located in the town of Lynnfield and on the border of the city of Peabody. This lake is used by Peabody as a part of its water system. The level of the lake was unusually low, due to heavy draught during recent dry weather, and we walked along the wide cobbly beach left by the receding water. As we passed a stretch of woody shore we heard a strange bird note resembling that of a Crossbill, and a moment later the tapping of a woodpecker at work. Soon after, we located the bird upon the trunk of a dead pine at the edge of the beach.

As the bird was absorbed in its work, we were able to approach within less than a hundred feet of the tree upon which it was pecking and, with the aid of our glasses, to see its markings very distinctly. It was about the size of a Hairy Woodpecker and had a solid black back unbroken by any spots or bars of white. The sides of its head were striped black and white, the nape and crown were black, the latter being broken by a bright yellow patch. The underparts were white, barred by many black lines, giving a gray effect. While at work the bird now and then uttered a short musical whistle, much more pleasing than the explosive chink of the Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers.

The tree upon which we found the woodpecker, and another dead pine, some rods further along the shore, both showed a great number of bright-colored pits in the bark, and judging from the rate of progress made while we

watched, the bird had been working on these trees for several days. In places it had chipped the bark at random, in others it had followed lines, and it would seem that the bark beetles upon which this species feeds must either live in colonies or are influenced by some quality of the bark in selecting their homes.

This being my first experience with this species of woodpecker, and knowing that the two species of Three-toed Woodpeckers have similar markings, I was unable to name the bird on the spot, but on arriving home and consulting manuals and color plates, I found that it was without doubt an Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker and not "Ladder-back," as the American Three-toed Woodpecker is sometimes called.*

*Subsequently an Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker was reported as seen on the same tree by another observer.

ANOTHER ESSEX COUNTY RECORD FOR THE BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER

ALBERT P. MORSE

Miss Katherine M. Edwards of Wellesley College, an experienced and critical observer, contributes the following recent record of a rare species in our territory:

"November 30, 1923.

"My dear Mr. Morse,

Here is the formal report of the presence of three blue-gray gnatcatchers at Pigeon Cove, Rockport, Mass., on Oct. 7 and 9, 1923. They were with a group of chickadees, golden-crowned kinglets, Canadian nuthatches and migrant warblers.

The observations were made by Mrs. Lena Edwards Sheble for both dates, and for the first date, when they were in evidence for about three hours, by Mrs. Sheble and

Yours truly,

KATHERINE M. EDWARDS."

BIRD-BANDING ACTIVITIES OF CLUB MEMBERS 1923

S. G. EMILIO

More than twelve hundred birds were banded by nine members of the Club during 1923, and thirty-three "returns" and "recoveries" have been reported of birds banded in this and previous years. Song Sparrow heads the list with a record of two hundred and forty-eight banded, followed by Tree Sparrow, one hundred and eighty-three, Slate-colored Junco, one hundred and sixty-five, Black-crowned Night Heron about one hundred and sixty, Chipping Sparrow, seventy-two, Barn Swallow, sixty, Bluebird, forty-three, Phoebe, twenty-six, Robin, twenty-six, Fox Sparrow, twenty-three, and Chickadee, twenty. These eleven species constitute eighty-four per cent of the total, and the remaining sixteen per cent is distributed over no less than forty-three species.

Approximately two-thirds of this work has been done in Essex County, and that done outside of our territory will be mentioned but briefly. An interesting bit of this outside work was done by Dr. C. W. Townsend, who banded two adult Herring Gulls, eleven adult Leach's Petrels, and two nestling Black Guillemots, on Grand Manan, and nine nestling Arctic Terns on Machias Seal Isle, off the coast of Maine. There was also an expedition to the Night Heron colony at Sandy Neck, Barnstable, Mass., in June, composed of eight men. Three of these were members of this Club, Mr. L. B. Fletcher, Mr. Taylor, and the writer, and collectively they are credited with banding one hundred and eleven nestling herons. There have been quite a few recoveries of birds banded by this party, showing the dispersal of the young herons after the nesting season. Mr. Fletcher has also maintained a feeding and banding station at Cohasset, Norfolk County, Mass., and although confining his operations mainly to week-ends, has succeeded in

banding two hundred and forty-two birds of twenty-three species. Song Sparrows, Juncos and Chipping Sparrows comprise over sixty per cent of his total. Six Bob-Whites, a Pine Warbler, and seven House Wrens banded by him are worthy of special mention. Nine birds returned to him, a Junco, two Tree, two Song, and four Chipping Sparrows, all from the banding of 1922 except one Song Sparrow from 1921. Mr. Taylor, at Unity, Maine, banded forty-two birds during July and August. These were practically all fledglings of twelve species, and included two Bay-breasted Warblers. A female Wood Pewee banded the preceding year, returned and was captured. She nested each year within a few yards of the camp. Mr. Taylor also secured some very interesting photographs and made rather detailed studies, particularly of Chipping Sparrows and Kingbirds.

We come now to the banding done within the confines of our County. This may be divided into the more or less sporadic efforts of several individuals, including the writer, and the banding done mainly at three feeding stations. These sporadic efforts resulted in the banding by Mr. Macintosh, Mr. Stockbridge and myself, of one hundred and thirty-eight birds of thirteen species. Over sixty were nestlings, the greater part of which were Night Herons at Castle Neck, Ipswich. One of these was later recovered in New Hampshire. A Song Sparrow banded in 1922 returned to my traps in 1923.

But by far the greatest amount of work done in this County has been performed by Messrs. Morley, Ropes and Preston. These gentlemen have accounted for seven hundred and seven bands during the year and have placed them on thirty-six species. Less than a quarter of these birds were nestlings, showing how great an amount of work has been done in connection with the feeding stations. An estimate of the number of "repeats" handled by these men is sixteen hundred birds. (An estimate only is possible, as Mr. Morley has no exact record of the number he handled.) Mr. Ropes handled one Tree Sparrow nearly ninety times, and the little fellow returned in the fall,

almost alone, to be handled some more. His total visits to the traps have long since passed the hundred mark. Altogether, fifteen birds returned to the station where they were banded. That is, they migrated to summer or winter homes and were again captured after completing the return trip. These were a Song Sparrow, two Juncos, five Chickadees, and seven Tree Sparrows. In addition, a Tree Sparrow banded by Mr. Morley was taken by Mr. Ropes, whose station is about eight miles away, and another was taken in the town of Essex, about thirteen miles away to the north-eastward. A nestling Robin banded by Mr. Ropes was found dead eleven months later in Baltimore, and a Song Sparrow also banded by him was taken in Digby, Nova Scotia, about three months later.

A full and detailed account of all the experiences of any one of these three men would fill many pages of this Bulletin, and it must be remembered that possibly more or less interesting information may have been omitted in the comparatively brief remarks which follow.

Tree Sparrows, Song Sparrows and Juncos make up about sixty per cent of the total banded. The Tree Sparrows in winter are somewhat variable in numbers, many more being present the early months of 1923 than during November and December. This species seems less dependent on the feeding stations at this season than does the Junco. The Song Sparrows are one of our most abundant migrants and summer residents, and come fairly readily to the traps. Of the Chipping Sparrows we find that about two-thirds banded were nestlings. The Barn swallows, which come next on the list, fell prey to Mr. Preston. No less than fifteen adults were caught in his barn, and thirty-four nestlings were also banded there. He should have some interesting returns to this colony another year. All three men banded Bluebirds, but of particular interest was the banding by Mr. Ropes of twelve nestlings, all the progeny of one female. This female and her mate for the second and third broods were also tagged. It is probable she had the same mate for all three broods, but the male was not caught until the second set of nestlings was being fed. It is quite usual

for this species to rear two broods during a season, but it seems from the above that three occasionally may be reared. Ten nestling Phoebes were banded. Perhaps adults may be caught another year by caging young birds in one compartment of a trap, as has been done with Warblers and other birds. Nestling Robins seem far easier to band than adults, for fifteen of the former are reported to one of the latter. The old birds prefer to pull worms from the ground where there is no trap over them. Mr. Morley is well situated for capturing Fox Sparrows, and caught seventeen of the total of twenty-three. For two years one or more has been seen at his station many times during the winter. Chickadees have not been trapped in any great number; Mr. Ropes reports eight and Mr. Preston seven. Another year may reveal some interesting returns of these birds.

Other not uninteresting birds banded by our three local men, are four young Kingfishers, four young Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, and two young Crested Flycatchers, which now carry Mr. Preston's bands; eleven White-throated Sparrows, four Field Sparrows, of which more will be read in the 1924 report, and two Myrtle Warblers, banded by Mr. Morley; a single Red Crossbill and a lone White-crowned Sparrow, banded by Mr. Ropes.

Apart from the mere number of men, birds and species involved, there seem to be a few other subjects that might be mentioned. Practically all who have trapped have used the Government sparrow trap in regular or modified form, the pull-string trap, and lately the all-wire so-called "New England" pull-string. Various other devices have been used with more or less (chiefly less) success. All who have used it agree that the modified or "New England" pull-string is excellent for ground-feeding birds.

Many different sorts of food have been used as bait to entice the birds to enter the traps. It seems to the writer that one of the rather desirable schemes has been the use of sweepings from the hay-barn, alone or with seeds and other food.

Mr. Ropes has weighed many birds. He reports the aver-

age weights to be about as follows: Chickadee, one-half ounce; Chipping Sparrow, a scant three-quarters; Tree Sparrow and Junco, three-quarters to a full ounce; Song Sparrow, a little over an ounce; Fox Sparrow, Catbird and Towhee, a little over an ounce and a half; Robin, two and a half ounces; Blue Jay, nearly three and a half; Bronzed Grackle, four, and a Crow, nineteen ounces.

The following is the complete list, as reported, of birds banded this past year by the nine members of the Club. Black Guillemot, two. Herring Gull, two. Arctic Tern, nine. Leach's Petrel, eleven. Black-crowned Night Heron, about one hundred and sixty. Spotted Sandpiper, two. Bob-White, six. Screech Owl, one. Belted Kingfisher, four. Downy Woodpecker, two. Northern Flicker, fourteen. Chimney Swift, two. Kingbird, four. Crested Flycatcher, two. Phoebe, twenty-six. Wood Pewee, one. Blue Jay, seventeen. Crow, one. Cowbird, five. Red-winged Blackbird, one. Meadowlark, seven. Bronzed Grackle, ten. Purple Finch, three. Red Crossbill, one. Goldfinch, one. Vesper Sparrow, one. Savannah Sparrow, eight. White-crowned Sparrow, one. White-throated Sparrow, seventeen. Tree Sparrow, one hundred and eighty-three. Chipping Sparrow, seventy-two. Field Sparrow, four. Slate-colored Junco, one hundred and sixty-five. Song Sparrow, two hundred and forty-eight. Fox Sparrow, twenty-three. Towhee, five. Rose-breasted Grosbeak, four. Indigo Bunting, one. Barn Swallow, sixty. Tree Swallow, four. Red-eyed Vireo, one. Yellow Warbler, two. Myrtle Warbler, two. Bay-breasted Warbler, two. Pine Warbler, one. Redstart, four. Catbird, fifteen. Brown Thrasher, one. House-Wren, seven. Chickadee, twenty. Robin, twenty-six. Bluebird, forty-three. Three hundred and eighty-seven of this total were fledglings, the balance, eight hundred and thirty-seven, grown birds, making the total twelve hundred and twenty-four.

THE RED-HEADED WOODPECKER BREEDING AT SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS

RODMAN A. NICHOLS

At various times during the past few years a male Red-headed Woodpecker has been seen on the grounds of the Salem Golf Club. The property of this club is located in the cities of Salem and Peabody and the town of Danvers, the boundary-stone marking the contact of these three places being near the middle of the golf links. It is somewhat unusual to be able to state that the bird has been seen in Salem, in Peabody and in Danvers in a single short flight.

The appearances of the bird have been decidedly irregular. Some years he did not appear at all; other years he was seen all summer; some only in spring or early fall; and again only a single observation would be made. This irregularity of appearance, together with the fact that previous to the summer of 1923 no female or young had been seen, seemed to stamp the bird as a solitary stray.

It is not intended to convey the idea that these records have always been of the same bird, as there is no direct evidence of this being a fact. It is worth noting, however, that all observations have been made in the decidedly circumscribed area of three hardwood *islands* and a few isolated trees on the grounds of the Salem Golf Club and the nearby Kernwood Country Club.

One habit of this bird was noticeable as being somewhat different from the usual in our local woodpeckers. This was his alighting and moving around on the horizontal limbs of trees in the same manner as Passerine birds. His usual method was the characteristic upward swoop to the face of the trunk but he frequently varied the procedure. Incidentally, he was never seen on the ground.

In midsummer, 1923, on pointing out the bird to a fellow golfer, I was astonished to have him say that he was not

only fully acquainted with him, but also knew "his wife and four children." As the four or five members of the Essex County Ornithological Club who regularly play golf over these links had watched and discussed the bird at every opportunity, but never seen any but the solitary male, it seemed impossible that a person having little interest in, or knowledge of, birds could be accurate in such a statement. The fact that we were standing but a short distance from the nest of a pair of Flickers which, with their young, had been much in evidence for some time past, confirmed my idea that my friend had confused the birds. After explaining that he was undoubtedly wrong in his statement and that the bird was a solitary stray outside his normal range, I was somewhat humiliated, though none the less pleased when the family of six flew across the grounds, directly over my head, and alighted in a low tree not over twelve feet away. In plain sight and apparently indifferent to our presence were the male, female and four young. They remained as long as we cared to watch them and were still in the tree when we left the vicinity. On two later occasions I saw the six birds together, and once five, the two adults and three young.

Subsequent consideration of the usual lines of flight of the male bird, his feeding grounds and perches, indicate that the nesting place was in a group of trees on the grounds of the Kernwood Country Club, located wholly in Salem. The grounds of the two clubs are but a few hundred yards apart, but separated by a tidal creek. In each instance when the whole family were seen they came from this group of trees on the grounds of the Kernwood Club and returned thereto. The birds crossed back and forth between the two localities in a moment, but it was impossible to follow, as the road distance is fully two miles.

Assuming the evidence to be conclusive, although the actual nest was not located, this is one of the few records of the breeding of the Red-headed Woodpecker in Essex County. In fact, the only other published instance I have found records a nest and young at Newburyport about thirty years ago.

CONCERNING STRAY AND ACCIDENTAL VISITORS

ARTHUR P. STUBBS

The study of stray and accidental birds, in its many phases, is an interesting subject. What may have driven the wanderer from its accustomed surroundings into strange territory, is often a puzzling question, and such questions always entice the student mind like paths into the unknown.

Does the avian equivalent of a mind become possessed by a wanderlust, as does the mind of a human being, or are the influences entirely external? Circumstances such as the following, undoubtedly have much to do with their actions: a crowded habitat with consequent scarcity of food, violent or long wind storms blowing away from their homes or usual route of migration, chance comradeship with some other migrating species. There are probably many other factors that influence such movements, that are less obvious or even unsuspected.

Essex County, Massachusetts, is very favorably situated to pick up accidental visitors, being upon the sea-coast and having its long stretch of shore varied by sand beaches and rocky headlands, with outlying ledges and small islands. The sand beaches, as a rule, are backed by salt marshes, cut by tidal creeks. The country back from the shore is made up largely of low nubbly hills covered with a mixed growth of woods and interspersed with many small ponds and boggy meadows. Such a combination of seaside and country ought to be attractive to avian visitors and hold them long enough to be seen and their visit recorded.

Oceanic birds are peculiarly liable to be forced from their normal range, and to this we owe our visits by Pelicans and other sub-tropical species. Soaring land birds are similarly affected, resulting in occurrences of Black Vultures and Turkey Buzzards.

Many species of birds normally resident in the far north, are driven south by stress of weather and lack of food; in

this class are the Ivory Gulls, Great Gray, Richardson's and Hawk Owls, and several other Arctic and Sub-arctic species. The two species of Three-toed Woodpeckers seem to be influenced by the scarcity of food alone.

Stray ducks seem to fall into the *comradeship* class. Several species normally migrating from their far northern breeding places to or through Europe, now and then travel southward along the American side of the Atlantic in company with New World ducks which have bred in the same region. Among these visitors are the European Widgeon and the lone Sheld Duck, collected in Ipswich Bay in 1921. Sometimes ducks that migrate regularly down the Pacific Coast, wander to the Atlantic Coast with related species; such an instance is the little company of Barrow's Goldeneyes, seen to such advantage off the rocks at Lynn the past three winters.

The Herons, after their breeding season is over, seem to have a fever for travel, and straggle northward "to spy out the land." Due to this straying habit, we have records of several southern herons, notably the American Egret, Little Blue Heron and Yellow-crowned Night Heron. In this class of *erratic wanderers* may also be placed the Bohemian Waxwing.

The Evening Grosbeak seems to be a species that is changing its status from that of a stray to that of a regular winter visitor. It is interesting to note its apparent change of place with the formerly common Pine Grosbeak, for as the former becomes common, the latter is becoming rare or uncommon.

Sometimes it happens that a stray bird is but a pioneer of a change or widening of the range of a species. Ornithological writers tell of several such expansions. The Cliff Swallow and the Prairie Horned Lark are familiar examples.

Three non-migratory birds, the Cardinal, Carolina Wren and Mockingbird, occasionally drift northward and even have wintered here, but as a rule disappear after a few months. These visits may be attempts at an extension of habitat. Several species of Warblers also stray northward

beyond their usual breeding grounds, among these are the Worm-eating and Hooded Warblers and the Louisiana Water-Thrush.

Occasionally summer resident birds winter here instead of going south with their kin. A recent example was a Catbird which wintered beside a small swamp on the Fay estate, Lynn, in the winter of 1920-21. The usual explanation of these winterings is that such birds were crippled or under-developed at the time of migration, but I prefer to think that a cosy nook and plenty of food has tempted the bird to stay until its mates have passed on and the migratory urge has died out.

The species mentioned include only a few of the known visits to our region by strays, as the intention has been to give only a sufficient number to illustrate some of the possibilities of the study of stray birds.



ANNOTATED LIST OF BIRDS
OBSERVED IN ESSEX COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS,
DURING THE YEAR
1923

The original data from which the following list has been compiled is on file with the Club Recorder and is available to interested persons on application to him.

A. O. U.

2. Holboell's Grebe. April 27; November 8. A pair seen off Swallows' Cave, Nahant, April 27.
3. Horned Grebe. May 2; October 12.
6. Pied-billed Grebe. April 22 to May 13; September 19 to November 4.
7. Loon. Non-breeding resident species.
11. Red-throated Loon. April 20; November 10.
27. Black Guillemot. January 17 to February 3.
31. Brünnich's Murre. January 21 to March 21.
32. Razor-billed Auk. February 3.
34. Dovekie. January 24 to February 21.
40. Kittiwake. February 3.
42. Glaucous Gull, March 15; December 30.
43. Iceland Gull. April 16.
45. Kümlen's Gull. February 3.
47. Great Black-backed Gull. May 16, June 24; July 24.
On the July date there were about thirty adults and at least as many more immature, with a few Herring Gulls, at the east end of Castle Neck, Ipswich. They were very wary.
51. Herring Gull. Non-breeding resident species. Steadily increasing in numbers.
54. Ring-billed Gull. September 19. One adult bird in close proximity to the larger Herring Gulls on the sand at Ipswich.

58. Laughing Gull. May 14 to 28; August 3 to 7. From a very rare species in Essex County this bird has become, during the past three years, a common one, especially about Lynn Harbor.
60. Bonaparte's Gull, May 14 to 28; July 26 to December 26.
70. Common Tern. May 14 to October 12.
71. Arctic Tern. July 24. At least one was seen on the beach with many Common and several Roseate.
72. Roseate Tern. June 23 to July 24.
77. Black Tern. September 3. Two at Ipswich, in fall plumage.
117. Gannet. April 19-20; September 3 to October 28.
119. Common Cormorant. Early Winter to April 8. A few often seen from Marblehead Neck and on several occasions in winter between thirty and forty cormorants have been seen, all being presumably of this species.
120. Double-crested Cormorant. August 25 to November 1. So far as known, strictly migratory in this county, and not a winter resident.
129. Merganser. April 15; November 4.
130. Red-breasted Merganser. June 10, June 24; July 24.
131. Hooded Merganser. November 18.
132. Mallard. November 4. There were perhaps twenty in Suntaug Lake, Lynnfield. Two-thirds flushed at some distance and flew far down the pond. The rest were local, semi-domesticated birds, and swam slowly to another cove.
133. Red-legged Black Duck. March 18; November 4. The March 18 birds numbered about 80 and were in Lynn Harbor on the ice. Many of these undoubtedly Red-legs.
- 133a. Black Duck. April 8 to November 4. The April 8 birds numbered six, seen in Middleton along the Ipswich River, and were no doubt local breeding brown-legs. On November 4 both red and brown-legs seen among the 350 at Suntaug Lake.

135. Gadwall. October 24. A lone female in Suntaug Lake.
139. Green-winged Teal. April 19. Eight birds in the fresh water at Castle Neck, Ipswich.
144. Wood Duck. May 19 to October 7. Not as common recently as immediately after the passage of protective legislation.
146. Redhead. March 17 and 21.
147. Canvas-back. April 22.
148. Scaup Duck. April 25; October 28.
149. Lesser Scaup Duck. April 18; November 4.
151. American Golden-eye. June 1; November 22.
152. Barrow's Golden-eye. April 16; December 20. This species is being observed the third consecutive winter at Sliding Rock, Lynn.
153. Buffle-head. May 2; October 25. This species is spreading along shore from its old feeding station near Little Nahant and increasing in numbers.
154. Old-squaw. June 1; November 1.
- 155.¹ Harlequin Duck. Eastern Point, Gloucester, February 22.
160. American Eider. October 12 and November 10. Ipswich Bay, seven and four birds respectively, a single adult male in each bunch.
163. American Scoter, April 18; October 12.
165. White-winged Scoter. June 1; September 27.
166. Surf Scoter. April 20; September 27.
167. Ruddy Duck. October 12 to November 18.
172. Canada Goose. March 25 to April 28; October to December 16.
190. Bittern, April 19 to Sept. 16.
194. Great Blue Heron. April 4 to May 26; July 31 to December 13.
- 200.² Little Blue Heron. Lynn Marshes, May 14; Wenham Swamp, August 3.
201. Green Heron. April 27 to September 3.

¹ See page 8.

² See page 46.

202. Black-crowned Night Heron. April 1 to December 1.
A very rough estimate of 1,000 birds was made at the colony in the Castle Neck dunes.
212. Virginia Rail. May 19-20.
214. Sora. May 14; September 23.
221. Coot. May 20 to 28; November 4.
228. Woodcock. March 22 to September 12. Deep snows to the northward still remaining in late March dammed the spring flight and very unusual numbers were observed in this county at that time.
230. Wilson's Snipe. March 24 to May 14.
231. Dowitcher. August 1. Clark's Pond, a half-dozen birds. Due to prolonged drouth the pond had become scarcely more than a mud hole.
234. Knot. September 27. A single bird on Lynn Beach with other sandpipers.
235. Purple Sandpiper. March 18. Two birds on Shag Rocks, Nahant.
239. Pectoral Sandpiper. August 1 to 10.
240. White-rumped Sandpiper. September 20 to October 12.
242. Least Sandpiper. May 20 to 29; July 24 to September 3.
- 243a. Red-backed Sandpiper. September 30.
246. Semipalmated Sandpiper. May 14 to 29; July 24 to September 27.
248. Sanderling. May 17 to 29; July 24 to November 3.
As late as November 1 over thirty were seen on Coast Guard Beach, Nahant.
254. Greater Yellow-legs. April 20 to June 10; August 1 to October 28.
255. Yellow-legs. May 20; September 2. The May record was made on the Ipswich River Bird Trip³ and the bird was seen in close proximity to the Greater species by several observers.
256. Solitary Sandpiper. May 13 to 20; July 30 to September 12.
261. Upland Plover. August 25.

³ See page 9.

- 263. Spotted Sandpiper. May 6 to October 22.
- 265. Hudsonian Curlew. May 6; October 26.
- 270. Black-bellied Plover. May 10 to June 10; September 3 to October 12.
- 273. Killdeer. March 23 to October 21.
- 274. Semipalmated Plover. May 14 to June 1; July 24 to October 20.
- 277. Piping Plover. May 6 to July 24.
- 283a. Ruddy Turnstone. September 2-16.
- 289. Bob White. Resident in small numbers in Danvers and elsewhere.
- 300. Ruffed Grouse. Resident species.
- 316. Mourning Dove. April 7 to December 9.
- 331. Marsh Hawk. March 21 to December 2.
- 332. Sharp-shinned Hawk. Resident species.
- 333. Cooper's Hawk. Resident species.
- 337. Red-tailed Hawk. April 1.
- 339. Red-shouldered Hawk. Resident species.
- 343. Broad-winged Hawk. September 30.
- 347a. Rough-legged Hawk. January 24; October 12.
- 357. Pigeon Hawk. March 28. Danvers.
- 360. Sparrow Hawk. Resident species.
- 364. Osprey. April 6 to May 20; August 3 to October 24.
- 367. Short-eared Owl. March 25; October 7.
- 368. Barred Owl. Resident Species.
- 371. Richardson's Owl. January 28.
- 372. Saw-whet Owl. February 18.
- 373. Screech Owl. Resident species.
- 375. Great Horned Owl. Rare resident species. Has been heard repeatedly at night or very early morning in the vicinity of the Club Camp in Boxford. Sometimes two birds have been heard.
- 387. Yellow-billed Cuckoo. May 26 to June 24.
- 388. Black-billed Cuckoo. May 19 to July 30.
- 390. Belted Kingfisher. February 20 to October 21.
- 393. Hairy Woodpecker. Resident species.
- 394c. Downy Woodpecker. Resident species. Very common at one time in the fall.

- 400.⁴ Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker. An adult male seen at Suntaug Lake, Lynnfield, October 22, and by another observer on October 24, on the same dead pine tree.
402. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. September 30 to October 16.
- 406.⁵ Red-headed Woodpecker. Salem Golf Links, May 27.
- 412a. Northern Flicker. Resident species.
417. Whip-poor-will. April 29 to August 3. Less numerous this year in some of the localities where it has been very prominent in years past.
420. Nighthawk. May 18 to September 19.
423. Chimney Swift. April 28 to September 3.
428. Ruby-throated Hummingbird. May 7 to July 30.
444. Kingbird. May 6 to September 3.
452. Crested Flycatcher. May 13 to June 27.
456. Phoebe. March 25 to October 12. The temperature dropped to 4 degrees above zero on March 29, with a northwest gale, and it is doubtful if the early Phoebes survived.
461. Wood Pewee. May 19 to August 19.
467. Least Flycatcher. May 1 to August 19.
474. Horned Lark. April 19; October 12.
- 474b. Prairie Horned Lark. March 4. (Specimen taken.)
477. Blue Jay. Resident species.
488. Crow. Resident species. Much less common in winter and seen migrating northward the afternoon of March 14.
494. Bobolink. May 7 to September 30.
495. Cowbird. March 24 to September 30.
498. Red-winged Blackbird. March 7 to August 10.
501. Meadowlark. Resident species.
507. Baltimore Oriole. May 8 to September 19.
509. Rusty Blackbird. March 19 to May 6; September 23 to November 11.
- 511b. Bronzed Grackle. March 17 to November 25.

⁴ See page 24.

⁵ See page 31.

- 514. Evening Grosbeak. October 25 to December 7. Few birds and erratic in their movements.
- 515. Pine Grosbeak. November 20 to December 9. Generally distributed but in small numbers.
- 517. Purple Finch. Resident species. Decidedly irregular in winter.
- 521. American Crossbill. January 28 to May 8.
- 528. Redpoll. January 28.
- 529. Goldfinch. Resident species.
- 533. Pine Siskin. May 20; October 28.
- 534. Snow Bunting. March 25; October 28.
- 536. Lapland Longspur. October 12. With Larks and Pipits at Clark's Pond, Ipswich.
- 540. Vesper Sparrow. April 8 to October 28.
- 541. Ipswich Sparrow. January 7 to April 1; October 25 to November 10.
- 542a. Savannah Sparrow. March 18 to November 1.
- 546a. Grasshopper Sparrow. May 25. Topsfield. A male in song. Not found at later date.
- 549. Sharp-tailed Sparrow. May 29 to November 1. The later date was of a fine specimen seen by two observers among the salt grasses of the outer shore of Little Nahant.
- 549-1-a. Acadian Sharp-tailed Sparrow. Plum Island. October 12. (Specimen taken.)
- 554. White-crowned Sparrow. May 13 to 27.
- 558. White-throated Sparrow. January 1 to May 20; September 19 to November 11. Wintered near two or more feeding stations.
- 559. Tree Sparrow. May 1; November 1.
- 560. Chipping Sparrow. April 22 to October 28.
- 563. Field Sparrow. January 6 to December 25. In January and subsequently, one or more individuals were seen at a feeding station in Swampscott, and up to the end of December no less than five of the species were resident at this same station.
- 567. Slate-colored Junco. June 7; September 19.
- 581. Song Sparrow. Resident species.

584. Swamp Sparrow. April 7 to December 23. This species probably winters in the County nearly as frequently as does the Song Sparrow. Six birds seen in late November and four in December.
585. Fox Sparrow. January 1 to April 19; October 21 to December 28. This species, like the Field Sparrow, wintered until mid-February, and is again present at the end of December at the Swampscott feeding station, which also held the White-throated Sparrows last winter.
587. Towhee. April 23 to October 7.
595. Rose-breasted Grosbeak. May 12 to September 23.
598. Indigo Bunting. May 19 to September 23.
608. Scarlet Tanager. May 17 to September 23.
611. Purple Martin. May 13 to 25. Migrant birds probably, as there is no known record of their nesting locally for some years.
612. Cliff Swallow. April 28 to August 19. Becoming rarer in Essex County.
613. Barn Swallow. April 21 to September 19.
614. Tree Swallow. March 18 to August 2.
616. Bank Swallow. May 19 to August 2.
619. Cedar Waxwing. Resident species.
621. Northern Shrike. April 15; November 17. Very much more rare than the preceding year.
- 622c. Migrant Shrike. November 11. Seen at Club Camp in Boxford.
624. Red-eyed Vireo. May 6 to September 23.
627. Warbling Vireo. May 15 to September 11.
628. Yellow-throated Vireo. May 9 to August 3.
629. Blue-headed Vireo. May 1 to 19; August 19 to October 14.
631. White-eyed Vireo. June 7. Danvers. Sang for a time from a large white oak, then flew to brushland and was seen no more.
636. Black and White Warbler. April 21 to September 27.
642. Golden-winged Warbler. May 8 to August 19.
645. Nashville Warbler. May 7 to September 23.
647. Tennessee Warbler. May 12 to 27.

- 648a. Northern Parula Warbler. May 6 to 20; September 14.
- 650. Cape May Warbler. September 30.
- 652. Yellow Warbler. May 5 to September 30.
- 654. Black-throated Blue Warbler. May 8 to 19; September 15.
- 655. Myrtle Warbler. January 11 to May 25; September 2 to December 2.
- 657. Magnolia Warbler. May 13 to 27; September 17 to 27.
- 659. Chestnut-sided Warbler. May 5 to August 19.
- 660. Bay-breasted Warbler. May 27.
- 661. Black-poll Warbler. May 19 to 29; September 12 to October 14.
- 662. Blackburnian Warbler. May 26.
- 667. Black-throated Green Warbler. April 22 to October 7.
- 671. Pine Warbler. April 8 to October 7.
- 672. Palm Warbler. October 7 to November 3.
- 672a. Yellow Palm Warbler. April 8 to May 17; September 30 to October 7.
- 673. Prairie Warbler. May 16 to June 24.
- 674. Ovenbird. May 6 to September 16.
- 675. Water-Thrush. May 19 to 27; September 9 to 29.
- 678. Connecticut Warbler. September 16 and 17.
- 681. Maryland Yellow-throat. May 9 to October 12.
- 685. Wilson's Warbler. May 19 to 26.
- 686. Canada Warbler. May 19 to 27; July 31. On the last date at least two birds were seen, and one sang. While small birds began to flock and move very early, it is possible these birds had nested in the vicinity. They were seen on the drumlin cut by the Wenham Canal.
- 687. Redstart. May 6 to September 16.
- 697. Pipit. September 27 to November 10.
- 703. Mockingbird. January 12 to April 4.
- 704. Catbird. April 19 to October 7.
- 705. Brown Thrasher. April 27 to July 24.
- 721. House Wren. May 5 to 19.

722. Winter Wren. January 5 to 21; October 7 to December 9.
724. Short-billed Marsh Wren. May 16 to September 19.
725. Long-billed Marsh Wren. May 20 to August 3.
726. Brown Creeper. Resident species.
727. White-breasted Nuthatch. September 16. There were practically none in 1922. In 1923, from mid-September on, they were common. An observer would frequently see as many as four in a few miles.
728. Red-breasted Nuthatch. March 25; August 19. Very common in fall of 1923; quite a few wintered.
735. Chickadee. Resident species. Fall and early winter of 1923, by far the most common of the small land birds that winter here.
748. Golden-crowned Kinglet. April 22; September 16.
749. Ruby-crowned Kinglet. April 15 to May 13; September 30 to December 23.
- 751.⁶ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. October 7 and October 9.
755. Wood Thrush. May 7 to August 10.
756. Veery. May 13 to August 19.
- 758a. Olive-backed Thrush. September 30.
- 759b. Hermit Thrush. April 8 to October 14.
761. Robin. Resident species. Migrants March 22 to November 1.
766. Bluebird. March 18 to November 3.

⁶ See page 25.





A LITTLE BLUE HERON IN SUMMER

S. GILBERT EMILIO

We were paddling slowly up the Ipswich River from our camp of the night before near Willowdale. It was August third, the uncut grass was tall, and the river, following a long dry spell, was very low. Repeatedly, as we rounded the turns of the tortuous course of the stream, a Great Blue Heron would clumsily take to flight. In the northern end of the Wenham-Topsfield swamp, at least six and probably eight of these huge birds were seen in this way.

As we proceeded, Great Blues were met with less often, and Bitterns and Night Herons were flushed more frequently. It was a rare opportunity to compare in life the immature "Quawk" and the Bittern. The much richer brown of the latter always served to distinguish it, even at considerable distance and without the glass.

Not far from "Pine Island," and close to the lone pine tree which, according to some people, the river circles twice, we startled a number of herons into noisy flight. Three birds crossed the river in front of us, flying towards the east. They came from the *trees* which bordered the right bank. The one furthest away was clearly an immature Night

Heron, the nearest very plainly an adult of that species, but the bird in the middle was quite different. It was about the same general size, but the neck was longer and more slender, the feet projected well beyond the tail, and the color was that of a Great Blue. My son at once remarked, "Look at the little Blue Heron." What he had in mind was a *partly-grown* Great Blue, for he did not know of the existence of the Little Blue. In a very few moments we saw a Green Heron in flight, and emphatically agreed that, while it resembled to some extent in *coloration* the bird we had just seen, its size, shape and flight were quite different.

A WINTERING FOX SPARROW

ARTHUR MORLEY

A belated Fox Sparrow appeared at my feeding station on December 17, staying about the place until December 27, when he entered one of the traps and was banded, Number 123301. This operation did not seem to phase him at all, in fact he seemed to like the place better for his rough reception, and was taken several times in the days following. Another laggard, of the same species, dropped in on January 8, and was promptly caught and banded, Number 123302. Like the first bird he did not seem to mind this rough treatment and was taken repeatedly during the following week. The two became friendly at once and joined in at the feeding place with the regular boarders, a mixed company of Tree Sparrows, Juncos, Chickadees, Woodpeckers, etc.

One morning, in the middle of January, these birds failed to appear, but two days later, just before dark, Number 123301 returned, and such a dejected, sorry-looking bird he was, both wings drooping to the ground, feathers fluffed out, and having an appearance of being all in. During the few minutes left of daylight he certainly worked fast on

the feed spread for the birds, wasn't a bit fussy, taking everything in sight. After a few days, food being plenty in the bin, he looked like a real Fox Sparrow again, and was the central figure in the crowd of birds at feeding time for the balance of the winter.

Now comes the question. Why two days missing? Well, to me, it runs like this. One fairly mild afternoon in the middle of January, after feeding late, the two Fox Sparrows attempted to get farther south, starting on their journey after dark. All went well until, toward morning, they ran into a *snow storm*, which the weather man reported was general on the coast of Virginia on that date. This held them up, and probably caused them to become separated. When the weather cleared, Number 123301 returned to a sure feeding ground, and by so doing furnished my station and Essex County with an actual all-winter record for his species.

WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCHES ON A FEEDING BOX

ARTHUR A. OSBORNE

About the middle of December, 1923, I placed in an apple-tree a large feeding-box, with the open side facing south. The box contained a suet-basket on the back wall and a small seed-box on each side wall. Among the visitors to the box were two White-breasted Nuthatches.

The birds never showed any fear about entering the box, though both would not feed there at the same time. While they often traveled along the limbs of the tree to the box, they usually approached it by very short flights from branch to branch.

They appeared to maintain a well-balanced diet between suet and the seed-mixture. This artificial supply of food did not, however, prevent them from spending the greater part of their time in searching this and neighboring trees for their natural winter food.

Both birds showed a decided preference for the sunflower seeds in the mixture of seeds, taking one at a time to a nearby limb, wedging the seed into the crevices of the bark, the hammering it open with blows as vigorous, by comparison, as those of a woodpecker. Very often the seed would be left in the crevice, to await the return of the bird later. Other seeds were treated in the same manner.

If an English Sparrow approached within a foot or so of a Nuthatch, it would make a slight lunge toward the Sparrow, at the same time spreading wide the tail, thus conspicuously showing the white patches in the outer feathers. I observed this performance on several occasions. The Sparrows never assumed an aggressive attitude at any of these times.

Now and then I saw one, sometimes both Nuthatches alight upon the ground near the base of the apple-tree, hop about, usually less than a minute, then return to the tree.

January first, 1924, a cold wintry day, was the last date on which either bird is known to have been at the box. A careful observation of the immediate neighborhood has failed to yield any subsequent Nuthatch record.



CALENDAR OF
THE ESSEX COUNTY ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB
OF MASSACHUSETTS
1923

January 8, 1923. Owing to a severe snowstorm, which turned to rain in the early evening, only ten members were present. There was, therefore, no fixed program, but two hours were spent in interesting discussions of personal experiences.

February 12, 1923. Twenty-three members present. Mr. Charles L. Whittle, a Club member, gave a most interesting talk on methods of attracting birds to trapping and feeding stations. He also touched in a general way on the activities of the New England Bird Banding Association and recounted some of his more interesting personal experiences in banding.

March 12, 1923. Fifteen members present. Evening devoted to Field Notes and general discussion.

March 26, 1923. Twenty-four members present. Mr. J. A. Farley, assistant to the State Ornithologist, Mr. Forbush, spoke on the work being done in connection with both the routine matters of his department and the preparation of the State books entitled "Birds of Massachusetts." Mr. Farley further told of his own early field-work in Essex County and of the bird life here twenty to forty years ago.

April 9, 1923. Nineteen members present. Mr. A. P. Morse, our Vice-president, gave random notes from Nebraska, where he has spent several recent summers. He gave a splendid description of the country and told of the bird life which he found there. He also described other fauna of interest to naturalists. The lecture was illustrated by lantern slides.

April 23, 1923. Sixteen members present. Evening devoted to Field Notes and general discussion.

May 14, 1923. Twenty-two members present. The communication of the evening was from Mr. A. A. Osborne, a Club member, entitled "Glimpses of Some of Our Western Birds." Mr. Osborne gave a most interesting and instructive illustrated talk on his trip during the past summer through the Canadian Rockies to the Pacific Coast, down the coast to San Francisco, and East via the Grand Canyon and Yellowstone Park. He enumerated many of the Western species which he had observed and described some of their characteristics and similarities to our eastern avifauna.

May 28, 1923. Twenty-four members present. Dr. C. W. Townsend, a Club member, read a most interesting paper on the diving of grebes and loons. Dr. Townsend handled this much discussed subject in a very convincing manner, maintaining that it was not the usual custom for these families to use their wings to assist them in swimming under water. The Ipswich River Bird Trip, held on May 19 and 20, was reviewed and the list of species observed was carefully checked.

June 11, 1923. Twenty-three members present. The speaker of the evening was Mr. William C. Adams of the Massachusetts Department of Conservation, who told about the work of the department and appealed for co-operation and assistance in this work. He asked especially that ornithologists make careful studies of the different species of game birds to obtain information which would aid his department in obtaining better protective laws.

September 10, 1923. Twenty members present. The evening was devoted to the recounting by members of their past summer's experiences, which proved to have been varied and most interesting.

October 8, 1923. Twenty-eight members present. President F. W. Benson gave a very charming description of a New Brunswick salmon river, and incidentally described the

fishing which he had had there for several seasons past. Mr. G. E. Benson then told of the birds which he had observed along this river, the Kedgwick. Several species of Tern were then examined and the various kinds found off our coast were thoroughly described.

November 12, 1923. Eighteen members present. The evening was devoted to Field Notes and a general study of some of our bird life found off the Essex County coast during the winter months. Lantern slides of many of these species were shown.

December 10, 1923. Twenty-nine members present. The paper of the evening was by Dr. C. W. Townsend, on the Birds of Grand Manan, N. B. He told of his visit last summer to this island and spoke of its bird life today as compared with the bird life as described by Audobon and others. Dr. Townsend observed several species which had never before been reported from this island and described some of his more interesting personal experiences during his sojourn there. A proposal of a regular schedule of Field meetings, in addition to the Ipswich River Bird Trip, was received from Mr. Emilio and others, and was read before the meeting. It was voted to accept and carry out this very excellent idea.



LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE ESSEX COUNTY ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB OF MASSACHUSETTS

BAKER, ALFRED,	39 Clement Ave., Peabody.
BATES, WALTER E.,	279 Essex St., Lynn.
BECKFORD, ARTHUR W.,	10 Park St., Danvers.
BENSON, FRANK W.,	46 Washington Sq., Salem.
BENSON, GEORGE E.,	46 Washington Sq., Salem.
BERRYMAN, FRANCIS,	17 Stevens St., Peabody.
BOSSON, CAMPBELL,	19 Brewster St., Cambridge.
BROWN, EVERETT B.,	266 So. Common St., Lynn.
BROWN, SUMNER F.,	63 Washington Ave., Cambridge.
BRULEY, ROGER S.,	64 Center St., Danvers.
BUSHBY, FRED W.,	17 Washington St., Peabody.
CHASE, CHARLES E.,	31 Euclid Ave., Lynn.
CUSHING, MILTON L.,	Box 374, Fitchburg.
DWYER, ELMER F.,	34 Maple St., Lynn.
EMILIO, S. GILBERT,	156 Hobart St., Danvers.
FANNING, DR. WALTER G.,	2 Hunt St., Danvers.
FELT, GEORGE R.,	71 Main St., Peabody.
FLETCHER, HUGH F.,	32 Jackson St., Lynn.
FLETCHER, LAURENCE B.,	54 Cotswold Road, Brookline.
FOWLER, ALBERT B.,	111 Locust St., Danvers.
GIFFORD, LAWRENCE,	63 Federal St., Salem.
GIFFORD, MORRIS P.,	63 Federal St., Salem.
GOODALE, LORING B.,	1 Pope's Lane, Danvers.
GRIFFIN, BERTRAM S.,	Lock Box 17, West Newbury.
HUBON, WILLIAM P.,	25 Flint St., Salem.
INGRAHAM, PHOCION J.,	235 Lowell St., Peabody.
JONES, GARDNER M.,	Public Library, Salem.
KELLEY, MARK E.,	52 Sutton St., Peabody.
LAWSON, RALPH,	88 Washington Sq., Salem.
LITTLE, PHILIP,	10 Chestnut St., Salem.
LONG, HARRY V.,	260 Clarendon St., Boston.
LORD, J. ANDERSON,	13 Ash St., Danvers.
MACKINTOSH, RICHARDS B.,	131 High St., Danvers.

MCNEILL, DAVID C.	33 Beckford St., Beverly.
MCNEILL, RALPH H.,	14 Mason St., Beverly.
MEANS, ROBERT W.,	19 Pearl St., Boston.
MOON, WILBUR D.,	46 Maple St., Lynn.
MORGAN, REV. GARFIELD,	205 Western Ave., Lynn.
MORLEY, ARTHUR,	26 Minerva St., Swampscott.
MORRISON, ALVA,	35 Congress St., Boston.
MORSE, ALBERT P.,	Peabody Museum, Salem.
MORSE, PROF. EDWARD S.,	12 Linden St., Salem.
MORSE, FRANK E.,	162 Boylston St., Boston.
MOULTON, CHARLES E.,	72 Maple St., Lynn.
NEWELL, FRANK F.,	47 Summit Ave., Salem.
NEWHALL, MILO A.,	Temple Court, Salem.
NICHOLS, FREDERICK M.,	13 Essex Court, Lynn.
NICHOLS, RODMAN A.,	27 Broad St., Salem.
OSBORNE, ARTHUR A.,	183 Lowell St., Peabody.
PERKINS, PORTER J.,	128 Burley St., Danvers.
PHELAN, JOSEPH C.,	16 Pierce Road, Lynn.
PHILLIPS, DR. JOHN C.,	"Windyknob," Wenham.
PORTER, WILLARD B.,	4 Mason St., Salem.
PRESTON, CHARLES H.,	42 Preston St., Danvers.
PROCTOR, GEORGE N.,	35 Congress St., Boston.
ROBINSON, JOHN, JR.,	18 Summer St., Salem.
ROPES, WILLIS H.,	252 Locust St., Danvers.
SANDERS, RICHARD D.,	43 Chestnut St., Salem.
SEARS, JUDGE GEORGE B.,	37 Cherry St., Danvers.
SMITH, FRED A.,	Agricultural School, Hathorne, Hass.
SPOFFORD, CHARLES A.,	23 Elm St., Danvers.
STOCKBRIDGE, DAVID L.,	112 Center St., Danvers.
STUBBS, ARTHUR P.,	14 Fisk Ave., Lynn.
TAYLOR, ARTHUR W.,	241½ Briggs St., Salem.
TEEL, GEORGE M.,	50 Pickering St., Danvers.
TENNEY, WARD M.,	60 East St., Ipswich.
TORTAT, WILLIAM R. M.,	5 Perkins St., Peabody.
TOWNSEND, DR. CHARLES W.,	98 Pinckney St., Boston.
WALCOTT, ROBERT,	152 Brattle St., Cambridge.
WHITNEY, CHARLES F.,	29 Pine St., Danvers.
WHITTLE, CHARLES L.,	50 Congress St., Boston.
WILKINSON, ROBERT H.,	Hamilton.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

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JAMES W. GOODRIDGE, died November 28th, 1923.

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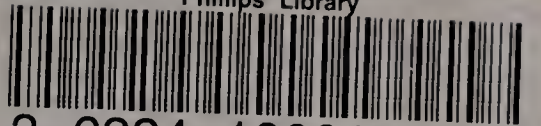
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